

In passing by...

I have noticed a few problems that need to be addressed when observers are taking their daily weather observations...that includes the maximum, minimum, and present temperature. If the observation is at 7am and the maximum temperature since the previous morning observation was 47 degrees...the minimum temperature was 30 degrees...and the present temperature at the 7am observation time was 26 degrees. **No-No!!!**

The minimum temperature should be lower than or equal to the 7am reading. This may be a simple transposing of data.

Mistakes happen, but if you take an extra moment before you write down and transmit the observation, take an extra look and see if it all makes sense.

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Hey...it's winter. Isn't it? We've had a tad more than 3 inches of snow so far...but did you know the first 4 days of January 2000 had an average temperature of 47.1 degrees while the normal was 25.5 degrees. We all know that the cold will come and the snow will follow...but might this be Global Warming the scientists are talking about? The rainfall amounts are looking better...with Indianapolis receiving 1.04 inches in 4 days. We are now looking forward for some white stuff to fall. <ha!>

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If you measure 0.30 inches of liquid precipitation...and the temperature for the 24 hours was not above the freezing mark... We need a measurement of snow or ice. (Hopefully, it's not ice!)

We still need each observer to add his precipitation total for both **rainfall** and for **snowfall**.

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“a few years ago...”

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Our office can be reached via the INTERNET. Our web page address is: <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/ind/front.htm>

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Don't be lulled into a false sense of security because of the low average of thunderstorm days. We still see several thunderstorms during winter months...and some of these thunderstorms produce tornadoes.

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Remember, snowfall entries are to be in inches and tenths of inches...on your observation sheet. Don't enter 3.75 inches ... round up to 3.8 inches. However, if you transmit your observation via “ROSA”... report snowdepth to the nearest inch depth.

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The entire United States has more deaths from flash flooding than from tornadoes.